poorer sections of society, as subsidised SKO is made available to them under public Distribution System through Ration Cards. On account of introduction of parallel marketing of SKO now, in the open market more subsidised SKO would be available, through public Distribution system, for poorer section of society.

(c) The amount of subsidey provided through the pricing mechanism during the past 3 years as under:-

(Rs ./Crores)

1990-91	**2334**
1991-92	**2364**
1992-93 (Estimated)	**3276**

Adulteration of Diesel with Kerosene Oil

1125. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that kerosene oil was used for adulterating diesel oil to the extent of 90 per cent and

(b) if so, what are the measures Government are taking to check the adulteration of diesel with kerosepe oil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) Complaints of adulteration of diesel oil with kerosene are received from time to time.

(b) The following measures are taken to check adulteration in petroleum products:-

i) regular and surprise inspection by Oil Company officials;
ii) density check under MS & HSD Control Order, 1990;
iii) doping of kerosene with furfural at selected locations;
iv) surprise inspections by mobile laboratories; and
v) surprise inspections of retails outlets by State Government officials.

Petrol and Diesel Outlets in the Country

1126. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) how many petrol and diesel outlets are being run by different oil companies in the country;

(b) whether Government are aware that the companies are losing heavily; and

(c) if not, what are the profits and losses of Government run diesel and petrol outlets in the country in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) Out of 16 retail outlets in operation, owned and operated by Oil Companies, one has been commissioned recently and the working results are not yet finalised. Of the remaining, 8 outlets are making profits and 7 are losing. Profits earned by these outlets together during the last 3 years are as under:—

(Rs ./lakhs)

1989-90	**13.34**
1990-91	**28**
1991-92	**18.88**

Proposal to Decanalise import of LPG and Kerosene

1127. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item appeared in the 'Indian Express' dated the 16th February, 1993 regarding the proposal to decanalise LPG and kerosene imports;

(b) if so, what are the details;